

REMARKS

Examiner Donald H. Heckenberg, Jr. is thanked for the courtesy of the interview granted Applicants' counsel on December 15, 2003. The claims and prior art were reviewed at length. Examiner Heckenberg was understood to say that the proposed limitation on the substrate containing the microlens mold may be allowable upon the submission of applicant's amendment and arguments. Therefore, the Examiner's comments together with the cited references have been carefully studied. Favorable reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4-6 are pending in the application. Claim 1 herewith is amended. Claims presently active are claims 1 (amended) and 4 -6.

Claims 1 and 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The rejection is traversed. Applicants respectfully made necessary amendments to the claims in accordance with the Examiner's comments in the Office Action. These amendments are deemed to now conform the claims to the requirements of the rules.

Claims 1 and 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendrickson et al. in view of Bohnenberger. The rejection is traversed. It is the conclusion of the Examiner that "It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have modified the apparatus of Hendrickson as such to have made the bushings in the first mold base and the corresponding apertures in the second mold base tapered because this would allow for alignment upon the mold bases being moved together as suggested by Bohnenberger."

Applicants' respectfully submit that the present invention, as presently claimed, is neither taught nor suggested by Hendrickson et al alone or in any legally permissible combination with Bohnenberger. Claim 1 (as amended) now recites

"...wherein each one of said juxtaposed mold cavities contains at least one microlens mold having a size of about 10 microns to about 25 mm in diameter and a sag of about 2 microns to 12.5mm in a substrate

configured to receive said at least one microlens mold in a precise relations to another of said at least one microlens mold."

Support for this novel and unobvious feature may be found in applicant's specification at page 12, lines 4 -8. There is clearly no disclosure in Hendrickson et al or Hendrickson in combination with Bohnenberger that teach or suggest applicant's feature as recited above.

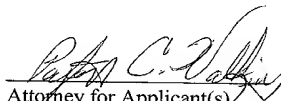
In view thereof, it follows that the subject matter of the claims would not have been obvious of Hendrickson et al. in view of Bohnenberger at the time the invention was made.

Applicants have reviewed the prior art made of record, including Hendrickson et al., Bohnenberger, Hallum, MacDonald et al., and Siepser and believe that singly or in any suitable combination, they do not render Applicants' claimed invention unpatentable.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendment, the claims 1 (as amended) and 4 -6 are now deemed allowable and such favorable action is courteously solicited.

Should the Examiner consider that additional amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the favor is requested of a telephone call to the undersigned counsel for the purpose of discussing such amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



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